

This is a summary of changes adopted by the Alaska Board of Game for regulatory year 2015-2016. This is not a comprehensive list of all the detailed changes. It is your responsibility to read the Alaska Hunting Regulations carefully for complete information.

These regulations do not become effective until July 1, 2015 so they do not affect hunting or trapping seasons that are currently open or that open prior to July 1, 2015 unless specified (such as spring bear seasons and bear baiting).

HUNTING

BAITING CHANGES EFFECTIVE SPRING 2016

Units 11, 13, and 14B, allow the take of brown bear over black bear bait stations during the spring season.

Unit 16, expand the area to all of Unit 16 to the take of bears over bait and allow the take of brown bear over black bear bait stations during the fall season (fall season effective July 1, 2015).

BLACK BEAR

Unit 6D, changed from a general season hunt for residents and nonresidents to a registration hunt, no change to season dates or bag limits.

Unit 14C, create a drawing hunt for residents and nonresidents on JBER Management Area. Drawing hunt will take place in spring of 2017.

BROWN BEAR

Unit 4, establish separate brown bear drawing hunt for nonresidents hunting with resident relatives within second-degree of kindred.

Unit 10, Unimak Island, extend the resident and nonresident brown bear drawing hunts by 6 days, season dates are now May 10 - May 31.

CARIBOU

Units 9B, and 17, extend the resident caribou registration hunt by two weeks, season dates are now Aug. 1 - March 31.

Western Arctic and Teshekpuk Caribou Herds: Units 21D remainder, 22A north, 22B remainder, 22D Kuzitrin, 22E east, 23 remainder, 24C and 24D, change the resident bag limit and season to 5 caribou per day with no harvest of calves, bulls are open from Feb. 1 - Oct. 14 and cows are open from Sept. 1 - Mar. 31; change the nonresident season to Aug. 1 - Sept. 30 with a bag limit of one bull; **Units 22B west and 22D Pilgrim River drainage**, a season may be announced from May 1 - Sept. 30, if a season is announced the resident bag limit and season will be 5 caribou per day with no harvest of calves, bulls are open Feb. 1 - Oct. 14 and cows are open from Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; if a season is announced, the nonresident bag limit and season will be 1 bull from Aug. 1 - Sept. 30; **Unit 22 remainder**, a season may

be announced by emergency order, if a season is announced the resident bag limit and season to 5 caribou per day with no harvest of calves, bulls will be open from Feb. 1 - Oct. 14 and cows will be open from Sept. 1 - Mar. 31, if a season is announced the nonresident bag limit and season will be 1 bull from Aug. 1 - Sept. 30; **Units 23NW, 24A remainder, and 24B remainder**, change the resident bag limit and season to 5 caribou per day with no harvest of calves, bulls are open from Feb.1 - Oct. 14 and cows are open from July 15 - Apr. 30, change the nonresident bag limit and season to 1 bull from Aug. 1 - Sept. 30; **26A that portion of the Colville River drainage upstream from the Anakutvuk River and drainages of the Chuckchi Sea south and west of and including the Utukok River drainage**, change the resident bag limit and season to 5 caribou per day with no harvest of calves, bulls are open from Feb. 1 - Oct. 14 and cows are open from July 15 - Apr. 30, the nonresident bag limit and season are 1 bull from July 15 - Sept. 30; **26A remainder**, change the resident bag limit and season to 5 caribou per day, no more than 3 cows per day, and no calves may be taken from July 1 to June 30, however, bulls may not be taken from Oct. 16-Dec 31, cows may not be taken Mar. 16- July 15, and cows with calves may not be taken July 16-Dec. 31, nonresident bag limit and season are one bull from July 15 - Sept. 30; **Unit 26B south of 69 30' N. lat and west of the Dalton Hwy**, change the resident and nonresident bag limits and seasons to 5 caribou from May 16 - June 30, however cows may only be taken from July 1 - Oct. 10.

Unit 13, community subsistence harvest hunt (CC001), effective July 1, 2016, require participants to commit to participation in the hunt for two consecutive years. Also requires a group report and, in the event the group does not report, the entire group will be ineligible to receive a permit hunt for the next regulatory year, including the CSH hunt.

MOUNTAIN GOAT

Unit 1, expand the archery only drawing hunt in the Juneau area. Create a resident registration youth hunt in the Tugahgo Mountain area near Haines with a bag limit of one goat every 4 regulatory years and season dates of Sept. 15 – Nov. 15. Extend the season dates in a portion of hunts RG023 and RG024 to align with RG026, new season dates are Aug. 1 - Dec. 31.

Unit 6, prohibit hunters who have harvested a nanny from taking another goat in Unit 6 for 5 regulatory years.

Unit 13D, remainder (DG720), extend the resident and nonresident drawing goat hunt by approximately 70 days, season date is now Aug. 10 - Nov. 30.

MOOSE

Unit 6B, updated the Unit 6B Controlled Use Area by putting the dates the area is closed to the use of motorized vehicles for moose hunting, Aug. 15 - Sept. 4; made exceptions for hunters to use boats to cross the Copper River by boat because the bridge washed out.

Units 11, 12, and 13 (community subsistence harvest, CM300 and CM301), effective July 1, 2016, require participants to commit to participation in the hunt for two consecutive years. Also requires a group report and, in the event the group does not report, the entire group will be ineligible to receive a permit hunt for the next regulatory year, including the CSH hunt.

Unit 13, created an any bull moose drawing hunt, up to 5 permits may be issued, season dates Sept. 1 - Sept. 20. **Effective July 1, 2016**, shortened the community subsistence harvest fall moose hunt (**CM300**) season dates by ten days, season dates will be Aug. 20 - Sept. 20.

Unit 7, shorten the season and shift all general season hunt dates to Sept. 1 - Sept. 25 for residents and nonresidents.

Unit 15A, shift the general season archery only hunt dates to Aug. 22 - Aug. 29, and shorten the season and shift all general season hunt dates to Sept. 1 - Sept. 25 for residents. 15A remains closed to nonresidents.

Unit 15B, shift the general season archery only hunt dates to Aug. 22 - Aug. 29, and shorten the season and shift all general season hunt dates to Sept. 1 - Sept. 25 for residents and nonresidents.

Unit 15C, north of a line from Point Pogibshi to the point of land between Rocky Bay and Windy Bay, established a nonresident general season hunt with a bag limit of 1 bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on at least one side and season dates of Sept. 1 - Sept. 25. Changed general season resident hunt dates to Sept. 1 - Sept. 25, and created a resident only targeted hunt with a season of Oct. 15 - Mar. 31. Also shifted the dates of motorized vehicle closure in the Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area from Sept. 11 - Sept. 14 and Sept. 17 - Sept. 20 to Sept. 16 - Sept. 19 and Sept. 22 - Sept. 25 so motorized vehicles can only be used from Sept. 1 - Sept. 15 and from Sept. 20-Sept. 21. Also changed the season dates of the antlerless moose hunt (DM549) for residents and nonresidents to Oct. 20 - Nov. 20.

Unit 17A, changed the bag limit for the resident winter registration hunt to one antlered bull and one antlerless moose, and added the month of February to the possible 31 day hunt season, a season of up to 31 days may be announced between Dec. 1 and the last day of February. Extended the nonresident drawing hunt (**DM570**) by 5 days to match the resident season, season dates are now Sept. 5 - Sept. 20.

Unit 22C, closed the antlerless moose hunt.

Unit 22D, remainder, changed the antlerless hunt to an any bull hunt, and extended the winter hunt to allow antlered bull moose to be harvested from Dec. 1 - Jan. 31.

MUSK OXEN

Unit 18, allow residents to harvest musk ox that are stranded on free-floating ice floes without a permit, requires the hunter to demonstrate the ice floe conditions by submitting time stamped photographs or video to ADF&G within 48 hours of harvest. Season must still be opened by EO, no locking tag required.

SHEEP

Statewide, Aug 10 – Sept 20 aircraft may only be used to place hunters and camps, maintain existing camps, and salvage meat and trophies while used for the purpose of Dall sheep hunting. Aircraft may not be used to spot or locate Dall sheep during the open season.

Units 14C, modified the legal bag limit for the archery only drawing hunts from any sheep to any ram.

Units 23 and 26A west of the Etivluk River drainage, permanently closed all hunting seasons, for both residents and nonresidents.

FUR ANIMAL

Unit 8, created a hunting season for Arctic fox, season dates Sept. 1 – Feb. 15 with a two fox bag limit.

SMALL GAME

Unit 14A, Hatcher's pass area, created the Hatcher's Pass Youth Hunt Management Area, the area consists of that portion of Unit 14A within the upper Little Susitna River drainage upstream of mile 13.6 on Hatcher Pass Road (Gold Mint Trail parking area) and ¼ mile away from the road including Archangel and Fishhook creeks, and upper Little Susitna River drainages. Also, portions of the upper Willow Creek drainage upstream of the confluence of Willow and Craigie creeks, including Grubstake Gulch and Homestake creeks, Summit Lake, and Bullion and Skyscraper mountains. There is no discharge of firearms allowed within ¼ mile of the road.

-from August 10 to August 25, the area is closed to small game hunting except that small game may be taken by youth hunters 16 years old or younger accompanied by a licensed hunter 18 years old or older who has successfully completed a certified hunter education course if the youth has not successfully completed a certified hunter education course. Youth hunters and accompanying adults must wear hunter orange outerwear (vest or jacket - not just a hat) while in the field.

Unit 15C north of Kachemak Bay and north of the Fox River, shorten the ptarmigan season to Aug. 10 – Jan 31 and reduce the bag limit to 5 per day, 10 in possession.

TRAPPING

BEAVER

Units 1 – 5, allow beaver to be harvested by firearm during open trapping seasons.

Units 7 and 15, lengthen the beaver season to Oct. 15 – Apr. 30 and require traps to be submerged from Oct. 15 - Nov. 9.

Unit 17, from Dec. 1 - April 15, allow all beavers to be harvested by firearm or bow and arrow, and require the meat to be salvaged.

ARCTIC FOX

Unit 8, created a trapping season for Arctic fox, season dates are Nov. 10 - Mar. 31 with no bag limit.

WOLVERINE

Units 1 -5, extend the wolverine trapping season by approximately 2 weeks to end on the last day of February.

MISCELLANEOUS

Falconry, removed the requirement for resident and nonresident falconers to possess a trapping license in addition to a hunting license to participate in the taking, transporting, or possessing a raptor or for practicing falconry in Alaska.

Copper Basin community harvest subsistence hunt, defined the terms community and group.

Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area, modify the dates in which the area is closed to the use of a motorized vehicles (except an aircraft or boat) for moose hunting to Sept 16 – Sept 19 and Sept 22 – Sept 25.

INTENSIVE MANAGEMENT

Unit 16, readopted the Unit 16 Intensive Management plan using the new format and updated some of the information in the plan.